

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

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Please amend the Specification on page 4 beginning at line 21 as follows:

Regarding a method for removing a halide contained in a carboxylic acid in a ppb order, Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. 5367/1971 (JP-46-5367BA) discloses that a halogen-free carboxylic acid is obtained by removing higher-boiling impurities in a first distillation column and removing lower-boiling impurities containing a halide in a second distillation column to purify a carboxylic acid as a product. However, this literature fails to disclose a concrete process for purifying a crude reaction solution containing additional other impurities in addition to a halide.